Allahabad. Aug. 1840.

Soc. of Inq. }
Dear. Brethren. }

Your letter from the pen of Bro Green was rec^d in July, & I would take this opportunity of expressing my gratitude to him for the detailed & minute information concerning my class-mates & associates of the Seminary which he has given me. I can assure him it was just such a letter as I could wish, & invaluable because it was news, & not a stereotyped exhortation on Pastoral Theology, as was one received by Bro Warren from the Western Seminary, valuable for nothing except the distance which it had traveled. But to pass. – This part of our mission is assuming a new aspect, full of promise – of hope & greatly encouraging to our hearts. Though this station has been occupied for more than three years – the death of our Lord Jesus Xt celebrated in the ordinance of the Lord's Supper, & a Presbyterian church organized, to which one or two natives have been admitted, yet we had no native mission church, & the sacraments were not administered in the native tongue, & hence we were to all natives as "barbarians". But thanks be unto our God who has smiled upon the labour of his servants – induced a few to listen for eternity & by his grace led some to solicit a connextion with us by a public profession of their faith in Xt. Hence on the 12th of July the first native mission church connected with the Allahabad mission was organized by Bro. J. Wilson, at which time three natives sat down for the first time to commemorate the love of God in Xt. Two had been baptized before – one was then received on profession, after which Mrs F. & myself presented

18 of our Sons for baptism, all of which received Bible or English names. Present 5 of our number — two Indo-European (teachers) & 4 natives, in all eleven. Of the four natives one was Petros our natives assistant — another Shukrullah our book folder who is now teaching our boys the art, & a third a youth who has just renounced Brahmanism & resolved to preach Xt crucified. What an honor to us all! what a scene for a Xtian's eye upon this pinnacle of Satan's glory! Well might Satan tremble to see such a movement in the citadel of his dominions; & shall not we rejoice while we are permitted to see such exhibitions of the power of God's grace. By the reception of the youth, Simeon, we are rebuked for our unbelief, & invited to exercise a stronger, more abiding faith in the power, & willingness of God to save. Last fall as Bro Morrison was on a tour for his health to Benares, he met with this youth who not only expressed a desire to learn of Jesus, but a determination to abandon Hinduism in which he had been educated. Bro M orison sent him to my care. He remained for two months or more, when he was visited by his Father, & persuaded to visit the home of his birth. He left us, & we never expected to see him again. But God had better things in store for him & for us. (In my account book I wrote "Expended for candidate Simeon, 12 Rs, & 9 ans = $6.25cts. & my reward, sudden departure & no thanks!")

About two months since he returned almost naked & desired to be received by us. After a full & minute examination we agreed to take him on trial. He has stood firm, & proved himself every way worthy of our confidence, & one qualified to be a colaborer with us in the work of spreading the gospel among his brethren. Indeed he is peculiarly qualified to be an ambassador of Xt. He was educated in all the tenets of the Brahmans — born a Brahman — has lived the life of a Brahman — is well versed in their shastras — understands their mode of argument — their ways of meeting objections to their religion —

& hence has a true Brahmanical tact in apprehending the drift of his opponent's objection, & understands the force of the arguments by which the objection is to be sustained. He is a Jacobus among the native preachers; and does he preach? you may ask. Yes & with more ability & power than any native, or even European at this station. He has also a zeal adapted to his knowledge & ability; & we hope the Lord has raised him up to work mightily against the strong holds of Satan. Being acquainted with the Urdu & Hindustani languages -with the nagaree character - the arabic & Persian both printed & written, he wields manfully a two-edged sword, & the Lord grant by his grace that it may be the sword of the Spirit. In his renunciation of Hinduism we have an idea of what all converts have to sacrifice in order to embrace the religion of Xt. After his return from here to visit his friends he made known his determination to embrace the re relig[illegible] of the Sahibs. They of course charged him with great violence - abused - insulted - scoffe -derided & threatened, but all in vain. As he was about to leave them, he asked permission to take with him his clothes & three brass articles for cooking, eating & drinking which were essential to his existence unless associated with Xtians. For no Hindu or Musulman would give him even the use of a vessel, for his touch would pollute it. His petition was rejected & the reason given, that henceforth he was to be treated as if dead, & all his property, or his inheritance to be given to his friends. These my dear Brethren are the sacrifices which these poor idolaters have to make when they accept the gospel we bring. Do you wonder that they listen cautiously? - That they advance with a faltering step? & that so few heed our message. How many Xtians would there be in our churches in America if this was to be the test of their profession if such were the sacrifices they were called to make?

Had I room & time I might give you even more painful instances than these. It is true, dear Brethren, that the flag of Britain waves over this land - that many laws have been enacted against idolatry & that many miſsion-aries are labouring for souls. Yet it is alas true that idolatry reigns in the heart of the nation. Yes the Suttee has recently blazed at the very door of the Govt-house, & its fires still kindle in various parts. - a day or two since Bro Wilson was preaching on the neceſsity of an atonement for sin, says a Musulman, the only atonement neceſsary is the blood of Xtians & all we want is a leader to march us forth. My blood chills at the thought of the sentiment, so fearfully fulfilled in the history of Muhammedanism. Now dear Brethren. Farewell, & may the God of all grace abide with you, & fit you to do & to suffer his will. You see the desolations around us - you know we are a feeble band, will you aid us as we face the mighty maſs preſsing down to death.
Love to our Fathers, Elder & Younger Brethren.
aff. Bro.
J. E. Freeman

Ship letter.
pr "Potomac":

Society of Inquiry,
Princeton
Seminary,
New Jersey.
U. S. A.

Recd - Feb 24 - 1841
Ansd - May 6th '41

FORWARDED BY
ADAM FREER SMITH & Co
CALCUTTA, 30 Octr. 40.